

The Importance of the River Nile

1. The River Nile runs through Egypt and through many other countries in Africa.
2. Crops are grown in the green areas along the River Nile.
3. Most people live near the Nile, because the areas around it are mostly desert.
4. The River Nile would flood every year and leave behind a rich soil. This was essential for growing food.
5. A system of canals that led from the Nile were also used to water fields in other areas. This is called **irrigation**.
6. Boats were used to travel up and down the Nile to trade throughout the country.
7. Mud from around the River Nile would be used to make bricks for building with.
8. The papyrus plants around the river were used to make papyrus, which was the paper of the Ancient Egyptians.
9. A plant called flax was grown. This was dried and made into a type of cloth called linen. This was used to make clothes.
10. The Nile was important for fishing. This was done in boats with nets

Prior Learning

To know which continent Egypt is on and locate it on a globe.

To know which river runs through Egypt.

To know the capital city of Egypt.

To be able to place the Ancient Egyptian civilisation on a timeline and identify where other time periods studied are placed in comparison.

Map of Egypt

Cairo is the capital of Egypt The River Nile is the longest river in the world. People settled near the Nile as it was a useful source of water (used for drinking, washing, watering crops)



Enquiry questions

When did the first settlers arrive in the Nile valley?

Which Egyptian god was the most popular?

In Egypt, do they have the same type of seasonal weather as England?

When was the Great Sphinx built?

Whose tomb did Howard Carter excavate, and why was it a significant discovery?



An example of hieroglyphics

Vocabulary Dozen

archaeology	the study of lives and cultures of ancient people
hieroglyphics	a picture used as a form of writing instead of letters
pharaoh	an ancient Egyptian ruler, can be a king or queen
mummification	the process in which the flesh and skin of a corpse (dead body) can be preserved
pyramid	a four sided, triangular building built as an Egyptian tomb, a place to bury the dead
sarcophagus	a stone coffin for burying the dead
burial chamber	a room that is often below ground level that is used to bury the remains of the dead
irrigation	watering crops through man-made channels such as ditches or canals
sphinx	a mythical being with the body of a lion and the head of a human
Egyptologist	someone who studies the ancient Egyptians
Rosetta Stone	a stone slab found with identical Egyptian and Greek writing, meaning that the hieroglyphics could be decoded and understood
descendants	a person who is related to you and who lives after you, such as your child or grandchild.

Did you know...

...the ancient Egyptians used mouldy bread to help fight infections?
 ...they were one of the first civilisations to invent writing? They also used ink to write and paper called papyrus.
 ...Egyptian men and women, both wore make-up?
 ... Ancient Egypt was one of the greatest and most powerful civilizations in the history of the world? It lasted for over 3000 years from 3150 BC to 30 BC
 ... cats were considered sacred in Ancient Egypt?

